

NCLB ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

GLOSSARY OF TERMS: 2004

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP):

AYP is a series of performance goals that every school, school district, and the state as a whole must achieve within time frames specified by law in order to meet the 100% proficiency goal of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*. AYP applies to all public schools, including Title I and non-Title I schools. Non-Title I schools must meet AYP for *No Child Left Behind*, but they are not subject to the rewards and sanctions under Title I.

To meet AYP, each school and district must meet the following criteria:

- **95% Participation:** Students as a whole and each student subgroup above 40 students must have a participation rate of 95% or above on state assessments.
- **Meet or Exceed Proficiency:** Students as a whole and each student subgroup must meet the state's measurable AYP goals regarding the percentage of students scoring proficient or better on the state assessments. For performance calculations, subgroups must have at least 20 students; at least 35 for students with disabilities.
- **Secondary Measure:** Each school, school district, and the state as a whole must show progress on an additional measure (graduation/dropout rate for high school and attendance rate for elementary and middle schools). The secondary measure must also be met for safe harbor calculations for any student subgroup.

Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA):

A test designed for those students with disabilities who are unable to participate in the general statewide assessments.

AYP Increments:

AYP goals are set by the state and refer to the percentage of students who performed at the proficient achievement level or better on this year's state test in language arts literacy and mathematics for students in grade 4 (NJ ASK), grade 8 (GEPA), and grade 11 (HSPA). In order to meet AYP goals for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, the school population as a whole, as well as for specific subgroups of students, is expected to meet or exceed the following percentages.

Subject	Percent of Students Proficient		
	Grade 4 NJ ASK	Grade 8 GEPA	Grade 11 HSPA
Language Arts Literacy	68%	58%	73%
Mathematics	53%	39%	55%

The AYP goals will increase in future years until all students are required to be proficient in 2013-2014.

Consolidated State Accountability Workbook:

Each state was required to submit to the United States Department of Education a workbook that details the implementation of its single accountability system. The entire document can be accessed at:

<http://www.nj.gov/njded/grants/nclb/workbook.pdf>

Early Warning:

All schools are analyzed. Those that do not meet AYP for one year are in early warning status. If these schools do not meet AYP for two consecutive years, in the same content area, they are identified as “schools in need of improvement.”

Economically Disadvantaged:

The term refers to an individual who is determined by a state educational agency or school district to be a child, ages 5 through 17, from a low-income family, on the basis of data used to determine children eligible for free or reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch Act.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA):

ESEA was first enacted in 1965. It is the principal federal law affecting K-12 education. The *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001* (NCLB) is the most recent reauthorization of the ESEA. In 1994, the federal law was reauthorized as the *Improving America's Schools Act* (IASA).

Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA):

New Jersey academic proficiency assessment administered to students in grade 8.

Indicators:

Criteria to analyze the total student population and each of the student subgroups used to measure student performance in each of the content areas. Primary indicators include AYP proficiency and participation rate of 95% or more. Attendance rate for elementary and middle schools and graduation/dropout rate for high schools are also considered (secondary indicators). There are a total of 40 primary indicators and one secondary indicator (attendance or graduation/dropout rate).

High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA):

New Jersey academic proficiency assessment administered to students in grade 11.

Limited English Proficient (LEP): LEP refers to students for whom English is a second language and who are not reading or writing English at grade level.

No Child Left Behind (NCLB):

NCLB is the most recent reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which is the principal federal law affecting K-12 schools.

New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK 4):

New Jersey academic proficiency assessment administered to students in grade 4.

Participation Rate:

Percentage of students in a school or district taking the state assessments.

Schools in Need of Improvement:

This is the status used to identify schools that did not meet the state's definition of "Adequate Yearly Progress" for two or more consecutive years.

Safe Harbor:

Safe Harbor is the method for making AYP if student subgroups do not meet performance targets but have made significant progress. It involves reducing the percentage of students scoring at non-proficient by at least 10% for each and every student subgroup that did not meet performance targets. Secondary measures must also be met.

Students with Disabilities:

One of the student subgroups that must be reported for AYP. This subgroup includes students with IEPs (Individualized Education Plans). The student performance count for this subgroup is 35.

Student Subgroup:

Student groups must be disaggregated using assessment data. This includes: Native American/Alaskan Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanic, White, Limited English Proficient, Economically Disadvantaged, and Students with Disabilities.